Bridge of Transitions; Breaking Prisoner Recidivism

Welcome!

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The Leadership Scholars Certificate Program is a two-year selective, interdisciplinary certificate program that prepares Rutgers undergraduate women to be informed, innovative, and socially responsible leaders.

Leadership Scholars design and implement social action projects to expand their understanding of issues and problems and to develop leadership skills.

This project gives Scholars the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge they have gained about leadership, advocacy, and social change with the practical and experiential knowledge they have developed about a particular policy issue or problem through the field site placement. It also further develops leadership skills by giving undergraduates the opportunity to practice leadership through action.

To find out more please visit the Institute for Women’s Leadership’s website at http://iwl.rutgers.edu.
Incarceration Trends in America

- 1980 – 2008, incarcerations in America quadrupled
  - roughly 500,000 - 2.3 million people

- the US is 5% of the World population and has 25% of world prisoners.
How many people are locked up in the United States?

The United States locks up more people, per capita, than any other nation. But grappling with why requires us to first consider the many types of correctional facilities and the reasons that people are confined there.

Sources and data notes: See http://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie.html
Gender/Race Breakdown

- 1 out of 18 men
- 1 in 89 women
- 1 in 11 African-American
- 1 in 27 Latinos
- 1 in 45 Caucasians
FEMALE INCARCERATION RATE BY RACE, 2000-2010

Jail reduces work time of young people over the next decade by 25-30 percent when compared with arrested youths who were not incarcerated.

Jails and prisons are recognized as settings where society's infectious diseases are highly concentrated.
Effects of Incarceration
RECIDIVISM

- Prison has not been proven as a rehabilitation for behavior, as two-thirds of prisoners will reoffend
- PQ: Where do you see yourself in a couple years?
Recidivism

- Refers to a person's relapse into criminal behavior, often after the person receives sanctions or undergoes intervention for a previous crime.

- 404,638 state prisoners from 30 states who were released in 2005 (The Bureau of Justice Statistics)

- 67.8 percent of them were re-arrested within 3 years of their release

- 76.6 percent were re-arrested within 5 years.
Mountain View Program

- Dr. Donald Roden in 2005
- Assists formerly incarcerated students
  - University admission process
  - Equips admitted students with the
    - Academic
    - Social
    - Professional resources necessary for success
- Student organization
  - promote campus awareness regarding incarceration, recidivism, criminal justice, and the benefits of higher education.
My Purpose

- Raise awareness and educate
  - community about individuals who have been previous incarcerated but have taken steps to change their life in a positive aspect.

- Recognize/acknowledge the accomplishments of current Mountain View Program students as well as alums.
Panelist

- 7 Individuals
  - 4 Women
  - 3 Men
- Transition Story
- Presentation followed by question
- Reflection on future
- Question and answer
Foundations of My Project

- Research of MVP
- Increase of Incarceration
- Recidivism Rates
  - Connection to my research with Shay’s Story
Big Picture Insights

- Stereo Types about Incarcerated Individuals in the Rutgers Community

- Audience Leaving with a changed mindset
Lesson’s Learned about justice-based women’s leadership

- Its not easy!

- Many Challenges, but with proper Resources, Accomplishable!
Thank You!

Institute of Women’s Leadership Program

LUCILLE LU
ROSSLIN MENSAH-BOATENG
PANEL
AUDIENCE
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Thank you for coming!


