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Prison University Project
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POSTNET barcode consisting of vertical bars of varying heights.

Dear Teachers, Friends and Friends of Teachers,

05.06.2020

First I'd like to thank the Prison University Project and their friends for the packages. How you got the warden to agree is beyond me. Also, most were surprised that even though they had not participated in the University Project itself, they were still included. You may have some new converts if and when classes resume. I guess it's always good to have too many.

On a personal note I would like to thank PUP for the opportunity to continue my education. I do believe I will continue to attend school once I leave San Quentin and it was your project that revived my interests and got me back onto the educational path so to speak. More to the point a couple of teachers really got to me, the first was in my 99A class. There were three teachers, but the gentleman, a former Principal, whose name I can't recall, sorry, well he encouraged me to write, even said I was good @ it. Well upon being convicted and entering the system, women had a good word for me or about me since. Then there was IOIA with Kathy and Kate, Kathy really inspired me, I had a great time. Anything we studied I'd go look up obscure facts to bring up in class, we'd debate for hours. She recruited me for the debate team which was pretty much the highlight of my prison stay. I can't thank them and the rest of you enough.

Finally down to brass tacks, the lockdown due to the Corona virus. It's been bad here in H-unit as we were packed in, 200 to a dorm for the first 4th. Soon after the powers that be decided 200 was not social distancing and removed a quarter of us to the blocks and the gym. Then came the masks and social distancing down to down, the topet of that was only two hrs of yard a day. Of course by then all classes and work was halted. Honestly two hours is hard for me as in an exercise hut and it's just not enough, it also means 22 hrs inside. I guess we should be happy to receive any outside time though, right? Then of course there's the rearrangement of the way we're quartered in the dorms, which came next.

I'm still unsure why this was implemented, now we are more crowded than ever. Let me try to explain, I was in a lower bunk with a half wall on my Rt and lockers on my left. On the other side of the lockers was another bunk w/a man in the lower bunk, Easy six ft. space. Then those same powers decided not to keep it all on the bottom but to bunk us up, so now it's like this. Bunk w/ two men then lockers then a bunk w/ two men, then a half wall. Next two empty Bunks then it starts again w/ two bunks of four. There is NO Social Distancing. My Bunkie and I are sharing a 6ft by 6ft space, lockers then two more men sharing the same size space. I'm hoping I'm clear? So again, "There is no Social Distance," the worse part isn't even the crowding it's the masks, we wear them all the time except when in the rack. The guards do not have to wear them! As in sure you are aware we as convicts have zero contact w/ the outside world @ this time, the only contact is with the guards who have a life (supposedly) outside the institution. So they're the carriers, and not wearing masks? Well some do but the down guards as a rule do not. So like usual inside it is not what you think nor hope. It's kind of a crap shoot, as in they can say they're doing something (all they can?) even if it's the wrong thing. Let's avoid the lawsuits, right?

Finally theres this, yesterday a Lt and Sergeant came in and ordered everyone to take down antennas, laundry lines, clear all books from the lockers, clean and hide anything else, for pictures to send to Sacto to prove their doing everything they can to keep us safe? So clean it up for the press and the higher ups, then you can go back to your usual way of life. They want everyone to think they're on top of this problem. They are not, it's been a confusing mess and continues to be. They have zero plans for this. We have no cleaning supplies and god forbid you do say your ill (or think it) they send you to the hole with nothing, books, TV, writing stuff. You fed through a hole in the door, no showers, no yard for up to 14 days. You not in trouble your just sick, no thanks, Ill buff it out.

After all who wants to be in a worse place during the lockdown?

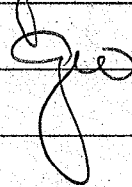
all this looks bad, im personally suprised they have no plans for something like this happening. Historically speaking the world tends to have pandemics or the like every one hundred years (See Spanish Flu then Aids). We do have masks but cleaning supplies are few and far in between. Not so funny fact, we each received a small bottle of hand sanitizer which most of the population promptly drank, no kidding. Also on another quick note, theres guards everywhere now with nothing to do because, as you know theres no school, no voc, no RAC and no DIA or work crews, the guards are set to have a banner for w/hazzard pay and OT while doing less than ever. According to their union contract they can't be sent home for lack of work. So they show up and collect their pay when most of the rest of California's citizens are forced to stay home. You'd think the State could use the OT and hazzard pay to help out the less fortunate? It just seems to me to be the real crime here, an out n out waste of State resources @ a time like this. Also remember, no work, no taxes, unemployment climbs. The State has no monies. At a awful time like this everyone should be trying to give, not get over. See police, Fire and CDC. Theres less crime, less accidents (no traffic) So except for paramedics, the firefighters are useless. They may want to think about cutting weeds and clearing deadwood or better yet helping PG&E check power lines throughout the state before fall comes and the whole state burns again. Parades for Dr's and nurses isn't the best use of gasoline or their time, that's taxpayers money after all. I realize this is harsh but its truth time.

Me, Im set to be released on July 4th, rite into this mess. Im yet to get a visit from Parole planners, their not coming in? People are still going home. I need to be transferred from Alameda to Placer County where my oldish Mother (80) lives mostly alone. I lost my job @ VAIL and my house years ago, wife aswell. If I parole to Alameda im officially Homeless. As of 59 Days and counting Im learned nothing and no one here knows anything about my case.

The councillors put everything off on parole, but they're nowhere to be found. Its the usual, "its not my call, not my job." Its frustrating to say the least. I was set for surgery on my Right Shoulder, im older (60), due to the virus all non-essential surgeries were postponed, Im unsure if ill even have health ins. I have a family to go to, Im wanted, so thats one thing in my favor, Everything else is up in the air. Homeless is not some thing i look forward too, but i will just have to take it as it comes. Basically im not asking for anything but because Im socially aware, finally, I wanted to let other socially aware persons know the State of the State. The CDC seems to have gotten away from them.

Thanks to the Prison University project, PUP, or is it Mt. Tam College, im on my way to a BA in either Poli Sci or Philosophy. So im officially "woke" now! no more getting "walked over" for not knowing. Education is the Path to true Freedom. Thank you to all that have helped, especially Kathy from 101A, the leader of Mt. Tam's Debate team, I can never thank her or all of you enough. I know i wasn't easy! 😊

Thanks again



George Galvin AW1583

H.3.11L

PS. Sure if you think this is in any way helpfull you can post it. I have no inside knowledge of what the CDC is thinking, this is just my experiences. Im living this so to speak. On the liter side, new motto for Mt Tam, F the Police in latin ... its ok to laugh! (Ill be gone, god willing in 58 days)

(Im in contact w/the Calif Reentry program here @ the prison)

Credulity Principle

Says that we are justified to rely on our perceptions unless we have a special reason to not trust a particular perception.

The problem is with the problem of the burden of proof normally applies to one who is asserting that something is the case.

It never properly applies where one is supposed to prove that something did not happen.