

Public understanding of and judgements towards physical health-related interventions in forensic service users

Abbie Jones | Dr Amy Baraniak | Dr Dean Fido

Aims

- To explore the general public's understanding and judgement of health interventions inside and outside of prisons
- To examine the role members of the community have in the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals with convictions



Knowledge Exchange

- Maria-Grazia assesses the risk management of individuals with a paraphilic sexual interest who advises on the interview schedule and examines which knowledge from this project can be disseminated within the Prison Service

Research methods

- Interviews with 10 members of the general public were conducted via Microsoft Teams
- Data was analysed using Thematic Analysis; guided by the 6-phased approach (Braun & Clarke, 2006).



(Word Cloud of common subjects that occurred during interviews)

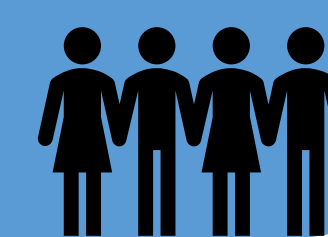
"If they can be shown positive ways to live through exercise ...you give them the tools when they're released, to actually make a meaningful life."

Conclusion/implications

- Overall, the data communicated a public call for greater education on how physical health-related interventions promote rehabilitation.
- The core elements of physical exercise such as collaboration, resilience and empathy promote an effective treatment for rehabilitation

Context

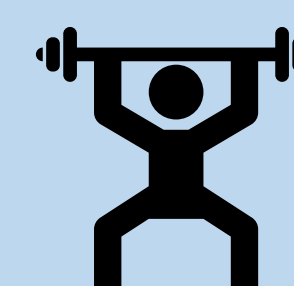
- Forensic clients have greater rates of physical health problems than the general population (Bronson et al., 2015; Nowotny et al., 2016).
- General Strain Theory provides the theoretical underpinning for the link between physical health impairment and criminal behaviour (GST; Agnew, 1992).
- As a forensic client's health is impacted with mental health issues, support of a multi-faceted approach upon release back into society is a significant contribution to reformation (Semenza & Grosholz, 2019).



Analysis

Theme 1: Physical exercise promoting rehabilitation

- Explored the association between physical exercise and the secretion of endorphins to improve an offender's mental wellbeing and release inner frustrations.



Theme 2: Lack of funding to invest in accessible health-related programmes

- Public concern for the government to invest in interventions to combat the cycle of reoffending.

Theme 3: Community support and leisure inhibiting rehabilitation

- Enable a forensic client to feel a part of a meaningful society who feel a degree of responsibility for each individual's quality of life and accomplishments.

Reference List



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