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This is a graded discussion: 10 points possible

due Apr 22 at 10pm

Corrections/Discussion 11

40 41

Sheriff Joe Arpaio runs the Maricopa County Jail in Arizona and has a "tent city" where inmates are housed with limited comforts and pink underwear. What are your thoughts on this approach to jail management?

[← Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19309>

[Osandha De Silva](#)



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19309>

Mar 26, 2017

Well it certainly doesn't sound like it's an approach that leads to the rehabilitation of the inmates. However, before I say that this approach seems inhumane I will say that it depends on the crimes committed by the people who are housed there, for example if a rapist has to deal with living with a limited amount of comforts I am okay with that because an inhumane crime deserves an inhumane punishment.

Edited by [Osandha De Silva](#) (<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19309>) on Mar 26 at 6:25pm

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<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279>

[Taylor Young](#)



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279>

Apr 7, 2017

I think they deserve to be punished, but not to be humiliated. I do agree that it does not lead to the rehabilitation of the inmates though.

[← Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8655>

[Kin Avila](#)



Apr 8, 2017

is that the same approach as to a rapist should then in turn be raped?

[← Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18452>

[Deisy Calderon](#)



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18452>

Wednesday

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<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279>

[Taylor Young](#)



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279>

Apr 7, 2017

I don't think that any inmates should be humiliated no matter what they have done. Yes, i believe that they should be punished but making them feel less than their worth I don't think is right. I also think that it can cause the inmates to lash out more than if they weren't being humiliated.

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<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8655>

[Kim Avila](#)



Apr 8, 2017

I dont believe that the intent for the "tent city" was to humilate the inmates. But more to give them a choice.

◀ [Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19309>

[Osandha De Silva](#)



Apr 9, 2017

Although we share mostly opposing views, I do understand your argument that punishments that are too humiliating can cause inmates to lash out more than if their punishments were less severe.

Edited by [Osandha De Silva](#) (<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19309>) on Apr 9 at 6:41pm

◀ [Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/16678>

[Megan Riedmiller](#)



Monday

i agree with you 100%. When you disrespect the inmates they are going to disrespect you in return. Humiliating them will only cause more problems and more tension in the jail.

◀ [Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8655>

[Kim Avila](#)



Apr 8, 2017

Tent City is
supervisor
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August. Fans of the sheriff applaud the spartan conditions, a victory against wasted tax dollars and a symbol of a no-nonsense approach to crime. "Tent city is by far the best idea ANY sheriff anywhere has come up with...GO JOE!!!" said one commenter on a [recent Facebook photo set](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.191340427698841.1073741906.147344832098401&type=1#facebook>) of the facility. "Keep up the GREAT work we are Winning the war," wrote another.

here is the link for the rest of the article. http://abcnews.go.com/ABC_Univision/Politics/problem-sheriff-joe-arpaios-tent-city-analysis/story?id=19804368 (http://abcnews.go.com/ABC_Univision/Politics/problem-sheriff-joe-arpaios-tent-city-analysis/story?id=19804368)

The concept is that of a good deal. Where the inmates are not in a cell but get to be out in more of the open. The approach maybe a little off, Mother nature then comes into play. You get the extreme hot temperatures and the extreme cold temperatures. So it is a give and take. You can be inside and in a cell or outside in the natural elements.

[Reply](#)

 [Shannon Johnson](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550>

Sunday

I agree that the outdoors could be a good or bad experience for an inmate. If you're an outdoorsy person prior to entering the jail, perhaps the tent city would actually be more comfortable than three cement walls with bars.

[Reply](#)

 [Robert Johnson](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/15476)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/15476>

Saturday

When I was a little boy, my Dad would ask me why I did something, we would talk about what I did and sometimes I would be punished, depending on what it was, as I got older, his same practice continued, but it developed along with my age and maturity. Once, to my surprise, he began discussing my motives. I learned through long lessons to always examine my motives. This practice has helped me develop an ethical way of approaching any situation.

So, what are the Sheriff's motives? He is known as the toughest sheriff in the country, having a tent city in the Maricopa County, Arizona. He provides pink underwear for prisoners. Indigent prisoners are provided postcards with his photo. One has him shooting "Joe" Camel, it is noted there is no smoking in his jail.

The Examination of his motives must be in line with the Constitution. The Supreme Court has rules prisons and jails do not have to be comfortable. They are designed by their very existence of being a place where people are denied privileges as punishment. Discipline comes often in life; Dad would talk to me and discipline me, not as often there was punishment. I did not like it, nor try to earn it. It hurt and by its very nature created an unpleasant feeling, which I wanted to end and not repeat.

This sheriff has developed a similar place; his jail is not a place people want to go. I wonder how this impacts homeless population who often commit petty crimes to obtain housing to escape the weather.

His motive? Apparently, to lessen crime

Is it legal?

Is it ethical?

Do people like it? No

Is there a reduction in crime? Unknown

Is there a better way to operate a jail? YES.

◀ [Reply](#)

 [Shannon Johnson](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550>

Sunday

Very well thought out opinion - you broke it down quite clearly at the end. And I also wondered about the reduction in crime as a result of Arpaio's approach because that would play into my opinion.

◀ [Reply](#)

 <https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550> 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550>

Sunday

I do not think jails should be pleasant and conditions should be challenging with limited comforts as imprisonment is a form of punishment for wrongdoing. However, abuse of inmates begets abuse by inmates. The issue I have with Sheriff's Arpaio's approach is the lack of rehabilitative programs in the management approach. While I have heard Sheriff Arpaio state that humiliation is a form of rehabilitation, research does not tend to back that up as being effective for most individuals. Since inmates in jail re-enter society at some point, I think it's best to provide assistance to the factors that have led individuals to jail, even if for a short time.

Edited by [Shannon Johnson](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/27550) on Apr 16 at 6:50pm

◀ [Reply](#)

 [Kim Avila](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8655) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8655>
Monday

I agree that the jails or tent cities should be made to be a great place to house inmates. They are being punished for their wrong doings so it should not be pleasant for them. However, they are still a human being and should have some basic amenities.

◀ [Reply](#)

 [David Norris](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/5637) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/5637>

Monday

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[Taylor Young](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279>

Tuesday

I agree that the conditions should be challenging. I dont think that anyone though should be abused by officers just because when they are in jail. No one can control what other inmates do to each other but everyone can try to set a good example.

[◀ Reply](#)

[David Norris](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/5637) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/5637>

Monday

I believe that Sheriff Joe Arpaio's approach to the "tent city" is definitely a psychological approach to jail management. Although I do not agree with this form of rehabilitation, I believe that the approach from Sherriff Arapaio is much differnt than my own since he has managed to degrade the inmates as a lesser instead of actually rehabbing them. I believe that the down side to this approach is that it takes a toll on the inmates and makes them despise the prison rather than actually rehab.

[◀ Reply](#)

[Christian Coretti](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/17686) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/17686>

Monday

i totally agree with you David, there is a down side to this approach and it does take a toll on the inmates which is why i think this approach should not be allowed.

[◀ Reply](#)

[Kare Torosyan](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19547) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19547>

Wednesday

I agree with you, this form of management is ineffective for rehabilitation.

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I personally think this is a horrible approach to jail management. Making the criminals wear pink underwear can be humiliating and the inmates will only develop a sense of hatred towards the law enforcement/jail officials. As for the "tent city" aspect sure it may seem like a good idea, it costs less and prisoners aren't confined to a jail cell, but in Arizona the temperatures can reach into the low 100's and with nothing but a tent and limited comforts it could be considered inhumane.

I believe in order for the inmates to want to follow through with a rehabilitation plan, you must treat them with equal respect(while of course not being friends but not being enemies either) while also acknowledging that they did commit a crime and are in there for a reason.

◀ [Reply](#)

 <https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/26412> 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/26412>

Monday

I agree with some of what you are saying Megan, however I think that what he is doing is trying to make the jail experience soo humlitating that inmates will not want to commit another crime and come back.

◀ [Reply](#)

 <https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/8279> 

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Tuesday

I completely agree with you! I think that when you treat someone with disrespect you are bound to get treated the same way. I believe that they should be punished for their wrongdoings, but not humiliated.

◀ [Reply](#)

 <https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/17686> 

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Monday

I think that this approach is appropriate for certain inmates. I believe if they committed a horrible crime then this punishment is accepted. This punishment may not be the best for rehabilitation but i think it will make inmates learn their lesson. This approach also allows inmates to get out more and not be stuck in a cell.

◀ [Reply](#)

 <https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/30002> 

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Tuesday

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 [Brady McDaniel](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/4004) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/4004>

Wednesday

I do agree with you that it is appropriate for some. What kind of inmates would you in your opinion put out in the heat to bake, rather than having an air controlled cell?

◀ [Reply](#)

 [Jonathan Oberholtzer](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19177) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19177>

Wednesday

I agree with you. I think this approach will help them learn their lesson.

◀ [Reply](#)

 [Jackie Robinson](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/26412) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/26412>

Monday

I have heard of Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Arizona and his controversial methods of incarcerating inmates. He is extremely controversial!!!! believe that if these methods that he uses are effective in deterring criminal behavior then more county jails should employ his methods. Because as I understand it jails and prisons are not designed to be places of comfort, but to moreover be places of rehabilitation and reflection. So in my opinion if what he is doing is working then, he's doing a good job.

◀ [Reply](#)

 [Brady McDaniel](https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/4004) 

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/4004>

Wednesday

Apparently it isn't as effective as some might think since they are closing it down I just read. Guess no more oven in the summer and freezer in the winter. Its better for the inmates health ;-)

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I believe it is fine for inmates being housed with limited comforts and wear pink underwear, because they are not entitled to a luxurious time in prison. They are there for a reason, and prison is a place where a convict should think about what they have done--punished as well--and not return ever again. However, the main problem is that it violates human rights. It is insane to think an inmate deserves to deal with the heat, receive awful quality of food, and denied of care for minor crimes and probation violations. I do not mind if an inmate feels uncomfortable--getting thoroughly searched for drugs or weapons, and wearing pink underwear, but as long as they have the basic necessities and care for them--rehabilitation, education programs, and health care.

[Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/9118>

Amanda Cochran



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/9118>

Tuesday

I am mixed about Sheriff Joe Arpaio's Tent City. After some research I found that when it was initially built there was overcrowding in the traditional jails. I do agree that there should be a consequences for criminals, so on the one hand, I do not feel that Sheriff's Arpaio's "limiting comforts" was inhuman. Inmates were feed two meals a day verse three, but the two meals had hearty portions. Also, the weather conditions were uncomfortable during the summer seasons, hopefully prompting the inmates to reflect on their actions and the reason they were in jail in the first place. Additionally, my understanding is that inmates had a choice to be incarcerated in an indoor facility if they requested.

However, I also feel somewhat opposed to this Tent City. I feel that Sheriff Arpaio's jail management style seems very arrogant and that this was a somewhat ridiculous and humiliating approach to inmate incarceration.

[Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/4004>

Brandy McDaniel



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/4004>

Wednesday

Maybe I have heard of this before, but wow okay a concentration camp like jail. I am not sure how making the men wear pink underwear is effective. From the sounds of it and the photos I have seen, it kind of reminds me of Hitler's way of doing things. Arizona is hot and I can imagine the guys having heat strokes. I guess the atmosphere would make the guys not want to commit whatever crime they did or any others so they wouldn't have to return. In a jail they are provided with controlled air or heat, no bugs and I imagine better food then what was given to them at this location. Depending on the crime that was committed though, example rape, murder, harm to a child if not given the death penalty, then a hot oven such as this place would be best.

[Reply](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19177>

Jonathan Obermoltzer



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19177>

Wednesday

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<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18934>



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18934>

Wednesday

I agree with you. Inmates are there for a reason and they could be getting a worse punishment.

◀ [Reply](#)


<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18452>



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18452>

Wednesday

Well I don't think it is going to help the inmates in any way. This guy is taking their manhood away by making them feel vulnerable and not be able to do anything about it. Yes it is a jail, they are there to serve their time and follow what they are told but when it taken advantage of by the superior is different. Just knowing that the are housed with limited comforts and have to wear pink underwear I can't imagine how they are treated. Prisoners should be punished but not humiliated. It won't help these men with the "rehabilitation process", I'm also not saying the rehabilitation always works but this will definitely not make things better. Also, they are not in their homes so they deserve what they are given, jails do not offer comfort and should not expect it.

◀ [Reply](#)


<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19547>



<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19547>

Wednesday

I agree with you, it's ignorant to call tent city a humane jail.

◀ [Reply](#)


<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/18934>



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Wednesday

I think that this jail ,management is crucial but I also believe that the inmates are there for a reason and deserve that treatment. I think certain inmates should get put under the sun. Like the ones who rape and torture little kids and commit murder. Those inmates deserve the worse. They shouldn't be at a luxurious prison.I don't think the pink underwear is necessary I think thats just extra.

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I can totally agree with your statement. I also think the ones that have committed a serious crime shouldn't have any luxuries. I do think the pink underwear is extra but that might stop someone the next time they are going to commit a crime. Good job overall by the way.

◀ [Reply](#)

(https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/9118)

[Amanda Cochran](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/9118>

12:14am

I agree with you. I think that prison shouldn't be a luxury either and they should be punished for their behavior. Great post!

◀ [Reply](#)

(https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19547)

[Kare Torosyan](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/19547>

Wednesday

I believe this form of jail management is inhumane. Many inmates complained about the expired food and undrinkable water the jail provided. Regardless of what these inmates have done to society or to individual people, they do not deserve to be degraded and treated as lesser human beings.

◀ [Reply](#)

(https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/9118)

[Amanda Cochran](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/9118>

12:15am

I agree that they shouldn't be degraded but I also think that they need to have consequences for their actions. Great post!

◀ [Reply](#)

(https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/7627)

[Aaron Bennett](#)

<https://vcccd.instructure.com/courses/1314/users/7627>

Yesterday

I think it is a very different approach to manage a jail. It might be affective because people might think it is to humiliating. As a whole I do not think it is that bad for the inmates. I think it should only happen to the ones that have committed a serious crime. For example if there was a murder or a rapist I think it should be allowed. Compared to someone that got into a fist fight for protecting his girlfriend.

◀ [Reply](#)